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November 13, 2009

Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: National Broadband Plan (GN Docket No. 09-51)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 12, 2009, representatives of the Telecommunications Industry Association ("TIA") met with Nick Sinai, Energy & Environment Director and Charles Worthington, Energy & Environment Staff of the National Broadband Taskforce to discuss smart grid policy for the National Broadband Plan. Participants on behalf of TIA included the following individuals: Joseph Andersen, Energy & Environment Consultant, TIA; Giselle Creeser, Director Technology Policy & Regulation, Lockheed Martin; John Godfrey, VP Government & Public Affairs, Samsung; Evan Morris, Legal Analyst, Harris Corporation; Marie Royce, Managing Director Global Strategic Initiatives, Alcatel-Lucent; and Paul Schomburg, Sr. Manager Government & Public Affairs, Panasonic Corporation.

At the meeting, TIA made the following points:

- Because of the diversity of applications and the evolving nature of the smart grid, there is no single technology best suited for the entire Smart Grid. Technological innovation throughout the ICT sector is improving performance and decreasing cost of deployment for smart grid applications.
- The FCC should promote the use of Internet Protocol (IP) as an end-to-end network layer for Smart Grid communications. IP is proven to be interoperable, reliable, scalable and secure.
- More study is needed to determine whether utilities require dedicated spectrum or whether licensed spectrum through commercial networks is sufficient. Because wireless broadband will play a critical role in the development and execution of a Smart Grid, the FCC needs to allot more time in making this determination.
- Commercial networks have a demonstrated record of incorporating robust cybersecurity capabilities into their networks and are able to meet the security requirements for smart grid applications.
- Smart Grid architecture should include a clear dividing line between customer premises and the reach of the utility network. The architecture should include a home energy manager owned and controlled by the consumer as the demarcation point. This will allow for innovation on both sides of the smart meter, maintain privacy and ownership of customer usage data, and increase network security by providing a firewall between consumer and utility data.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Danielle Coffey

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Danielle Coffey

cc (via electronic mail):

Nick Sinai
Charles Worthington